

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: MARKS VISIT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: MARKS' PARTY CONSULTED WITH DIRECTOR HERMITAGE AND DISCUSSED 5 YEAR EXCHANGE PLAN. UPBEAT PICTURE OF ACADEMIC EXCHANGES PRESENTED BY PRORECTOR LGU SELEZNYOV. END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSTANTIVE PORTION MARKS' VISIT BEGAN WITH CONSULTATION HERMITAGE DIRECTOR PIOTROVSKIY. MARKS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH INCREASED DIRECT EXCHANGES BETWEEN HERMITAGE AND AMERICAN MUSEUMS. PIOTROVSKIY NOTED HERMITAGE WORKING ON 5 YEAR PLAN FOR AMERICAN EXCHANGES TO INCLUDE:

A. EARLY 1976, USSR SHOWING OF SELECTED PAINTINGS FROM U.S. MUSEUMS IN RECIPROCITY HAMMER/HERMITAGE EXHIBIT.

B. MID-1976, METROPOLITAN PRE-COLUMBIAN GOLD EXHIBIT IN USSR.

C. 1977--CONTEMPORARY SOVIET PAINTING TO U.S.

D. LATER EXCHANGE COSTUME EXHIBITS.

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AFTER DISCUSSIONS PIOTROVSKIY HIMSELF CONDUCTED 3
HOUR TOUR OF HERMITAGE.

3. LEVEL OF RECEPTION AT LENINGRAD UNIVERSITY (LGU)
AND LENINGRAD POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (LPI) AFFECTED
BY PRESENCE BOTH RECTORS AT MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL
RECTORS CONFERENCE. LGU MEETING WITH PRORECTOR
SELEZNYOV AND LPI WITH PRORECTOR OKOROKOV.

4. SELEZNYOV DISCUSSED MOSCOW MEETING WITH MHE
OFFICIALS AND U.S UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS LAST WEEK
TO EXPLORE FUTURE EXPANSION OF EXCHANGES (WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY MAY ELICIT ON
THIS MEETING). SELEZNYOV STRUCK RATHER POSITIVE
NOTE IN STATING THAT LGU HOPES TO SEE EXCHANGES
EXPAND. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PROPOSING MORE
EXCHANGES IN THE HUMANITIES TO MHE AND IS AWAITING
REPLY. HE RECOMMENDED MORE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
UNIVERSITIES THROUGH MHE AND MORE EXCHANGES OF HIGH
RANKING ACADEMIC DELEGATIONS IN VARIOUS FIELDS TO
STUDY PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF INCREASING EXCHANGES. HE
FELT UNIVERSITIES SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE. HE FINALLY
SUGGESTED BEGINNING UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGES.

5. SELEZNYOV REPLIED TO MARKS' QUESTIONS ABOUT SOVIET
IMPLEMENTATION OF BASKET THREE IN EXCHANGES BY SAYING
HELSINKI FINAL ACT HAS NOW BECOME OFFICIAL POLICY.
HOWEVER OUR EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND RELATIONS ALREADY
GOOD AND IMPROVING PRIOR TO HELSINKI AND HE DID NOT
SEE ANY NEED TO CHANGE THIS.

6. COMMENT: EXCHANGES WITH THE HERMITAGE APPEAR
TO BE EXPANDING IN A DIRECTION THAT GIVES CULTURAL
DETENTE REAL MEANING. SELEZNYOV'S POSITIVE COMMENTS
WERE INTERESTING BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER
LGU'S RECTOR SHARES THEM AND TO WHAT END THEY MAY
LEAD.
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